LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A text symbol entry system, comprising:

a display visually divided into at least two functional areas, a first of the functional areas corresponding to a first aspect of entering text symbols, and a second of the functional areas corresponding to a second aspect of entering text symbols;

an indicator system operable by one human digit, the indicator system having at least a first cardinal state corresponding to a first stroke category, a second cardinal state corresponding to a second stroke category, and a third cardinal state, the third cardinal state having no textual meaning associated with it;

a processor responsive to each cardinal state, whereby the indicator system may be used to select options displayed in at least one of the functional areas;

a program controlling the processor so that text symbols may be entered in response to a user selecting at least one of the options; and

wherein the first functional area displays candidate characters text symbols which comprise completed text symbols that have strokes associated with said first and second stroke categories and the second functional area displays selected text symbols characters; and

the display further comprises a stroke display area for displaying strokes within said first and second stroke categories, which are respectively identifiable by the first and second cardinal states.

2. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein:

the first cardinal state is activated by applying a force to a first location;

the second cardinal state is activated by applying a force to a second location; and

the third cardinal state is activated by identifying a third location, the third location being located between the first location and the second location.

3. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 2, wherein a fourth cardinal state is activated by activating the first cardinal state and the third cardinal state.

4. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 2, wherein identifying the third location is accomplished by applying a force to the third location.

5. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the text symbol entry system has a first mode and a second mode, wherein;

when the text entry system is in the first mode, the first cardinal state has a textual meaning associated with it, and

when the text entry system in the second mode, the first cardinal state has a different meaning associated with it.

6. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein the different meaning is a different textual meaning.

7. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein the different meaning is not a textual meaning.

8. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 7, wherein the different meaning is a navigational meaning.

9. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein moving from the first mode to the second mode is accomplished by applying a force to the third location.

10. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein when the text symbol entry system is in the first mode, the first cardinal state is used to select a

first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol.

11. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the first cardinal state is used to select a first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol.

12. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 11, wherein the first cardinal state is used to select a first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol, wherein the first category of text symbol includes symbols having a first feature and the second category of text symbol includes symbols having a second feature.

13. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 12, wherein a symbol having both the first feature and the second feature is included in both the first category and the second category.

14. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the indicator system includes a position indicator and selection of one of the cardinal states is accomplished by detecting a position of the position indicator.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of entering text symbols, comprising:

providing a display having a first functional area and a second functional area wherein the first functional area displays candidate characters text symbols and the second functional area displays selected text symbols characters, and the display further comprises a stroke display area for displaying symbols identifiable by the first and second cardinal states;

providing an indicator system operable by one human digit, the indicator system having a first cardinal state corresponding to a first stroke category, a second cardinal state corresponding to a second stroke category, and a third cardinal state;

providing a processor operably connected to the indicator system;

activating the first cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a first category of text symbol to be entered, the first category including text symbols used to create a plurality of text characters; and

displaying in the stroke display area a symbol of the first category.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising displaying a representative symbol, the representative symbol corresponding to the first category.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising displaying in the first functional area a text character having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

activating the second cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a second category of text symbol to be entered, the second category including symbols used to create a plurality of text characters; and

displaying in the first functional area a text character having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category and one of the symbols corresponding to the second category.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising selecting the text character symbol displayed in the first functional area.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising displaying the selected text character symbol in the second functional area.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

displaying in the first functional area a first icon that represents ~~a text character~~ which has one of the symbols corresponding to the first category; and

displaying in the first functional area a second icon that represents part of a text ~~character~~ symbol, the first icon and the second icon having the same symbols.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of entering text symbols, comprising:

providing a display having a first functional area and a second functional area wherein the first functional area displays candidate ~~characters~~ text symbols which comprise completed text symbols that have strokes associated with first and second stroke categories and the second functional area displays selected ~~characters~~ text symbols, and the display further comprises a stroke display area for displaying symbols identifiable by ~~the~~ first and second cardinal states;

providing an indicator system operable by a human eye, the indicator system having a first cardinal state, a second cardinal state, and a third cardinal state;

providing a processor operably connected to the indicator system;

activating the first cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a first stroke category ~~of text~~ to be entered, the first stroke category including symbols used to create a plurality of text ~~characters~~ symbols; and

displaying in the stroke display area a symbol of the first category.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising displaying a representative symbol, the representative symbol corresponding to the first category.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising displaying in the first functional area a text symbol ~~character~~ having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

activating the second cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a second stroke category ~~of text~~ to be entered, the second category including symbols used to create a plurality of text ~~characters~~ symbols; and

displaying in the first functional area a text symbol ~~character~~ having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category and one of the symbols corresponding to the second category.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising selecting the text ~~character~~ symbol displayed in the first functional area.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying the selected text ~~character~~ symbol in the second functional area.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

displaying in the first functional area a first icon that represents a text ~~character~~ symbol which has one of the symbols corresponding to the first category; and

displaying in the first functional area a second icon that represents part of a text ~~character~~ symbol, the first icon and the second icon having the same symbols.